

2. (Previously amended) A food additive according to claim 1 wherein greater than 90% of soluble solids are removed.
3. (Previously amended) A food additive according to claim 2 wherein from between 93 to 99% of soluble solids are removed.
4. Previously cancelled.
5. (Presently amended) A food additive according to claim 4 3 wherein the melon is selected from the group consisting of watermelon, rock melon, honeydew melon or champagne melon.
6. (Presently amended) A food additive according to claim 4 3 wherein the first of the two or more fruit and vegetables is a citrus fruit or carrot and the second of the two or more fruit or vegetables is selected from the group consisting of grape, apple and cranberry.
7. (Previously amended) A food additive according to claim 6 wherein the first of the two or more types of fruit or vegetables is selected from the group consisting of orange, carrot and grapefruit and the second of the two or more types of fruit or vegetables is selected from the group consisting of grape, apple and cranberry.
8. (Presently amended) A food additive according to claim 1 or 4 3 wherein a first of the two or more fruits or vegetables has a calcium content of between 4000 and 15000 ppm and a second of the two or more fruit or vegetables has a calcium content of between 200 and 1500 ppm.
9. (Presently amended) A food additive according to claim 1 or 4 3 wherein a first of the two or more fruits or vegetables has a soluble neutral non starch polysaccharide content of between 2 and 3 percent dry weight and a second of the two or more fruit or vegetables has a soluble neutral non starch polysaccharides content of between 1 and 2 percent dry weight.
10. (Presently amended) A food additive according to claim 1 or 4 3 wherein a first of the two or more fruits or vegetables has a total uronic acids content of between 20 and 40 percent dry weight and a second of the two or more fruit or vegetables has a total uronic acids content of between 5 and 20 percent dry weight.
11. (Presently amended) A food additive according to claim 1 or 4 3 wherein the first of the two or more fruits or vegetables has :

a calcium content of between 4000 and 15000 ppm;
a soluble neutral non starch polysaccharides content of between 2 and 3 percent dry weight; and
a total uronic acids content of between 20 and 40 percent dry weight
and the second of the two or more fruit or vegetables has :
a calcium content of between 200 and 1500 ppm;
a soluble neutral non starch polysaccharides content of between 1 and 2 percent dry weight; and
a total uronic acids content of between 5 and 20 percent dry weight.

12. (Previously amended) A food additive according to claim 11 wherein the first of the two or more fruit and vegetables is an orange, and the second of the two or more fruit or vegetables is selected from the group consisting of apple, grape and cranberry.

13. (Previously amended) A food additive according to claim 12 wherein the first of the two or more fruit and vegetables is an orange and the second of the two or more fruit or vegetables is an apple.

14-15. Previously cancelled.

16. (Previously amended) A food additive according to claim 11 wherein the first of the two or more fruit and vegetables is a grapefruit, and the second of the two or more fruit or vegetables is selected from the group consisting of apple, grape and cranberry.

17-39. Previously cancelled.

40. (Previously added) A food additive according to claim 1 wherein greater than 90% of soluble solids are removed.

41. (Previously added) A food additive according to claim 2 wherein from between 93 to 99% of soluble solids are removed.

42. (Presently amended) A food additive comprising a mixture of a first fiber ~~extract~~ preparation from a first fruit or vegetable, and a second fiber ~~extract~~ preparation from a second fruit or

vegetable, wherein the first fiber ~~extract~~ preparation and the second fiber ~~extract~~ preparation are prepared by

slicing the two or more fruits or vegetables into substantially uniform pieces,
extracting soluble solid by contacting the pieces with an extraction liquid under conditions to remove a majority of water soluble solids, and
substantially removing any remaining seed tissue from the fibre ~~extracts~~,
the first fruit or vegetable being one or more selected from the group consisting of citrus tomato, carrot, mango, papaya, banana, pineapple, kiwi fruit, spinach, and
the second fruit or vegetable being one or more selected from the group consisting of melon, grape, apple and cranberry.

43. (Previously added) The food additive of claim 42 wherein the enzymes within the fruit or vegetable are inactivated before extraction.

44. (Previously added) The food additive of claim 44 wherein the inactivation is by heat

45. (Previously added) The food additive of claim 42 wherein the sliced fruit is flash heated at about 60°C

46. (Previously added) The food additive of claim 42 wherein the sliced fruit or vegetable is undigested prior to extraction, having not been physically comminuted or treated enzymically or chemically to alter insoluble solids within the fruit or vegetable

47. (Previously added) The food additive of claim 46 wherein the sliced fruit has not been macerated or milled.

48. (Previously added) The food additive of claim 46 wherein the sliced fruit has not been treated by alkali or acid.

49. (Previously added) The food additive of claim 46 wherein the slicing disrupts only about 0.5% of the cell walls.

50. (Previously added) The food additive of claim 42 wherein the pieces of fruit is sliced so that the soluble solids have a diffusion path to the extraction liquid of not longer than about 1.5 mm

51. (Previously added) The food additive of claim 42 wherein the extraction liquid is water.

52. (Previously added) The food additive of claim 51 wherein the extraction is by a countercurrent method, wherein the sliced fruit or vegetable material is carried in one direction whereas the extraction liquid is carried in the opposite direction.

53. (Previously added) The food additive of claim 52 wherein greater than 90% of the water soluble solids are removed.

54. (Previously added) The food additive of claim 52 wherein between about 93% to about 99% of the soluble solids are removed.

55. (Previously added) The food additive of claim 42 wherein the
the first fruit or vegetable being one or more selected from the group consisting of citrus and
carrot, and
the second fruit or vegetable being one or more selected from the group consisting of grape,
apple and cranberry.

REMARKS

After entering the instant amendment, claims 1-3, 5-13, 16 and 40-55 are pending in the present application, claims 17-39 having been previously cancelled *without* prejudice pursuant to the Examiner's restriction requirement. Claims 42-55 were previously added. Applicants believe that the present amendment now obviates the Examiner's rejection of the instant application under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph and that the present application is in condition for allowance. Support for the amendment to the claims can be found throughout the original specification, including the claims. No new matter has been added by way of the present